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The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian

No. 383. SEPTEMBER, 1938.

LIFE. FREEDOM. FRIENDSHIP.

JOHN XI, 11. "I go to awaken him out of his sleep."

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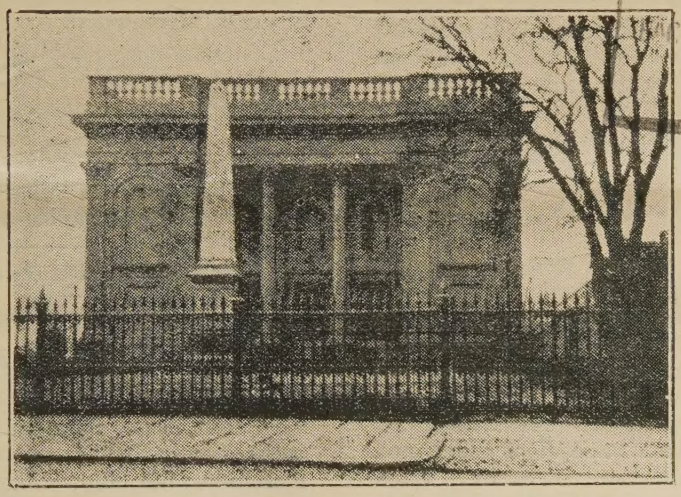

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HOLYWOOD N.S.P. MEETING HOUSE.

NOTES AND NEWS.

The Keswick Convention, which was brought to a close on Sunday night, July 24th, is becoming more and more an occasion for estimating the progress and work of the Churches, more especially those on Evangelical lines, throughout the world. One feature of the Convention is the great number of countries represented, by stalls containing articles of workmanship, as well as literature, and provision is made for religious agencies of all kind. But, a very serious note was struck on the closing night by messages coming in from the mission-field. "The News Chronicle" reported that "the chairman, the Rev. W. H. Aldis, told of an African Student who attended a recent conference and who, on departing, said to him: 'I am going back to urge my Christian fellow-students not to come to England.'" "It was useless" said Mr. Aldis, "to send the gospel elsewhere and at the same time abandon it ourselves." "Miss Mildred Cabu from the Gobi desert warned her hearers that large numbers of Eastern students were closely and critically watching the state of affairs in the land which had sent its missionaries to them and had professed so much concern for their spiritual welfare." There was strong anti-British feeling among such students before they came and unfortunately that was enhanced by the time they left.

Islam had awakened, and the depressed classes of India might become Islamic, through the Church's failure to seize the opportunity.

* * *

Long ago, in a Free Christian pulpit, we heard a Brahman say, "You send missionaries from the West, to the East, to explain the Bible to us, and you forget that the Bible is an Eastern book, and that we are an Eastern people. We might as well send a man from the East to explain Shakespeare to you. When we read that 'Jesus fasted forty days and then said 'I and my Father are one;' we know quite well what that means, for we understand the science of Meditation, and that no one can be regarded as a truly spiritual teacher who has not by meditation, realised his unity with the Supreme. We Easterns have developed along the contemplative line, but, you Westerner's have concentrated along the practical side. Both aspects are needed in the world, we need more of the practical and you need more of the contemplative, and thus we have always welcomed those who are sincere in their religion, who would share with us what they have, as we would also gladly share with them."

* * *

There are now however great movements for the promotion of this mutual understanding, that each Great Religion has its own gift to bring to the common stock. Christianity has the worth of the individual, self-sacrifice and social service; Islam has the unity of God; Judaism has righteousness; Hinduism has duty; Buddhism has "freedom of mind, and compassion," the Parsee has purity. Each religion has its own great Word, and the late Professor Max Muller said, "He who knows only his own religion, knows none." Professor Gardiner of Newcastle-on-Tyne in 1900 said, "The keynote of the Twentieth century is Tolerance"

* * *

"Epstein's statue of the Christ might well be beautiful for the savage, but is surely not beautiful for the civilised man, and therefore is ugly. It might also be said that Epstein has reproduced for the evolution of to-day the beauty of thousands of years ago. This beauty is no longer able to perform for us the duties of the beautiful, and therefore we term it ugly."—G.S.A.

* * *

PULPIT SUPPLY.—The Rev. W. Eakin, 103 Greenore Street, Belfast.

FIRST PRESBYTERY.

The Third Centenary of First Presbytery in Ireland is in 1942. The General Synod has appointed a Committee to prepare for it with Mr. H. F. Orr as Convenor. Look out for the special number of "N.S. Presbyterian" on that date.

SUBSIDY FUND.

The Rev. A. Davison, Treasurer, begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following subscription:—

Ballyhemlin Congregation (per F. M. Allen, Esq.)	£1	0	0
Moneyrea Congregation (per Mrs. J. McK. Abernethy, "Beech Crest," Moneyrea) ...	0	10	0

Contributions should be addressed to Rev. A. Davison, Dromore, by whom they will be gratefully acknowledged.

Editor's Appeal on behalf of New Church at Newcastle-on-Tyne.

York St. Congregation, Belfast	£1	1	0

THE DIVINE WISDOM.

"Christ is our foundation, and our chief corner-stone. We are no more strangers and foreigners: but fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets: Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner-stone. In whom all the building fitly framed together: groweth unto a holy temple in the Lord; In whom ye also are builded together: for an habitation of God through the Spirit. Except the Lord build the house: their labour is but lost that build it."

October, 1938, number published on Saturday, September 24th. Copy sent in before September 17th will be received by Rev. John Barron, Ballywalter, Co. Down.

* * *

The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian can be obtained at the Depository, 35 Rosemary Street, Belfast.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

By resolution of the Synod, an advisory committee is being formed, to whom reference can be made for advice on legal matters connected with churches and property. A congregation, with the best intention in the world to do the right thing may for the want of expert guidance, become involved in a great deal of trouble over its affairs, such as investments, etc.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING.

Would Ministers and Secretaries at their earliest convenience, send place, date, preacher, time of harvest thanksgivings so as to have the list of notices complete.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE.

The Moneyrea branch Women's League gave a farewell social evening, on Friday, July 22nd, for Mrs. Abernethy, prior to her return to Australia. Mrs Dugan, President, and Mrs. J. D. Davies, welcomed the guests which numbered about 60, including members from Killinchy and Comber branches of Women's League. Mrs. Davies, Comber, gave a brief talk on principles of Women's League. Mrs. Abernethy gave a very interesting account of her trip from Australia and spoke of her kind reception by the clergy and members of the Unitarian Church at the various ports of call. A musical programme, included recitations by the Misses Grace and Kathleen Frame, and Mrs. Orr. Solos—Rev. GlynneDavies, Comber and Rev. J. D. Davies, Moneyrea. Violin selections—Mr. H. Frame. Tea was served after which there was games and dancing, ere the evening came to a close Mrs. Abernethy was asked to convey greetings from Moneyrea, Killinchy and Comber branches Women's League, to League members and other Unitarians on her way back to Australia. Auld Lang Syne and National Anthem brought a very enjoyable evening to a close. L.B.

FOR DISTRIBUTION.

Unsold copies are generally used for free distribution at Ulster Hall Meetings. This year two United Services were held in the First Church, Rosemary Street, and the usual distribution did not take place. We would suggest that every congregation apply for a parcel of copies, more especially for copies containing a picture of its meeting-house, or of some item of special interest, and that the co-operation especially of young people and others, ready to assist, be enlisted to distribute them over the locality, especially in remote places where the movement is unknown. Parcels can be obtained on application to Depository, 35 Rosemary St., Belfast.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICES.

Newry—Sept. 18th, 11-30 a.m., 7 p.m.

Larne—Sept. 18th—11-30 a.m., 7 p.m.

Crumlin—Sept. 25th, 12 a.m., 7 p.m. Preacher, Rev. F. Munford, B.A., B.L.

Templepatrick—Sept. 25th—12 noon, 6-30 p.m. Preacher—Rev. A. G. Peaston.

Ballyhemlin—Oct. 2nd. The Belgravia Quartette will take part.

Dromore—Oct. 2nd, 12 a.m., 6 p.m. Preacher, Rev. A. G. Peaston, Templepatrick.

Killinchy—Oct. 2nd, 12-15 a.m., 7 p.m.

Ballycarry—Oct. 16th—12 noon, 7 p.m.

Mountpottinger—Oct. 23rd. Preacher—Rev. E. Savell Hicks.

Ballee—Sunday, October 23rd, 11-30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Preacher, Rev. J. Glynne Davies. Monday, October 24th, 7-30 p.m. Preacher, the Moderator, the Rev. E Savell Hicks, M.A.

OBITUARY.

Mrs. S. M. Bailie.

The congregation of Larne and Kilwaughter has suffered a severe loss through the death of Mrs. Bailie, wife of Mr. S. M. Bailie, J.P., of Altanoir, Larne. On the evening of the 9th July, Mrs. Bailie passed away, after a somewhat prolonged illness, patiently and bravely borne. Unobtrusive in her ways, she was of a particularly kindly and charitable nature, and all that concerned the best welfare of our congregation provided a deep and active interest for her. As long as her health permitted, Mrs. Bailie was a most faithful and regular attender of her Church, seeking by example as well as precept to exercise an influence for good.

Though the funeral to Kilwaughter Cemetery was of a semi-private character, there was a very representative attendance of personal friends, and the large number of beautiful floral tributes marked the high esteem in which the deceased lady and her family were held. The services at the house and graveside were conducted by the Rev. John Begg, assisted by the Revs. H. Colvin and J. H. Nesbitt. On the Sunday following the death, tokens of respect, including the Dead March in "Saul" were paid to the dear departed, and a sorrowing congregation gave expression to their heartfelt sympathy with the bereaved husband and only daughter.

Mr. William Ervine.

It is with deep regret that we record the death of Mr. Wm. Ervine, which occurred at Waringsford, Dromore, on May 28th, at the age of 77. He was a life-long member of the Dromore Church, with which his people have been associated for many years. Latterly, infirmity had prevented his attendance at service, but he retained to the last his interest in the congregation, in which he gave valued service in earlier years, as a member of committee. Formerly landsteward to the late Wm. Cowan Heron, at Altfort, he afterwards acquired from Mr. Heron's representatives, the corn-mill of Warringsford, which has since been developed by his sons, and is at present, the most complete corn milling centre in Ulster. The interment took place on May 30th, the Rev. P. Godding, Banbridge and the Rev. W. Hall, Downpatrick, officiating, Mr. Davison being away from home on holiday. The large numbers attending the funeral witnessed to the respect in which the deceased was held, not only in the neighbourhood in which he lived, but in the denomination, and by all creeds and classes.

Mr. Henry Hobart.

Death has robbed the congregation of Dromore of yet another old and valued member. Mr. Henry Hobart, who passed away on Saturday, June 18th, at his home, Lagan Lodge, Dromore, at the age of 78, had practically a life-time's association with the Church, being a Trustee for over 30 years, and for many more years a member of Session and Committee. In the business world, he held an honoured position, and his professional work as an architect remains in many a place, in the County, as a memorial of his thoroughness. Whether his work was "seen," or "hidden," made no difference to his demand for good work. All this was typical of his character—genuine, dependable, and trustworthy. He was fond of music, and played the violin well, and often gave pleasure to members of the congregation at social gatherings in past years..

The funeral, which was private, took place on Monday, June 20th, a service being conducted in the home by the Rev. Alfred Davison, who, along with the Rev. J. B. Lusk, Glasgar, a brother-in-law of the deceased, officiated at the graveside.

Mr. John Dickson.

The Downpatrick congregation has suffered a very heavy loss in the death of the oldest and greatly beloved member of the Church, Mrs. John Dickson of Ardcuan, Saul Street, who passed away after a short illness on Friday, July 15th, in her 94th year. Despite her advanced age she had been able to maintain her characteristic youthfulness of spirit until a little more than a week before

her death, and her mental powers were amazingly acute and vigorous. She read considerably, and daily pondered over her Bible and other devotional books with great fervour, never neglectful of the culture of the soul. The numerous friends who regularly visited her always counted it a benediction to be in her presence. She became definitly associated with the First Presbyterian Church upon her marriage when a very young woman, and ever since she had been a most loyal and zealous member, deeply interested in all that pertained to its welfare. Mrs. Dickson was a supporter of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Magazine since its inception. A very large gathering at her funeral on Sunday, July 17th, testified to the high esteem and affection with which she was held by her exceedingly wide circle of friends. The services at the house and in the Church were conducted by the Rev. H. Hall.

Mr. Andrew R. Scott.

It is with much regret that we have to report the death of the above respected gentleman of the Bridge House, Dunmurry, where he came to reside fully 25 years ago with his wife and family. Soon after he joined the Dunmurry congregation. A number of years ago he became hon. treasurer and he held this office till his demise, which took place in Larne at "The Cairn," the residence of his wife's sister (Mrs. Minnis), both daughters of the late Mr. James Morrow, J.P. a prominent member of the Larne congregation. It may be mentioned that the Bridge House property formerly belonged to the late Mr. Wm. Boomer, an elder in Dunmurry congregation. Mr. Scott was a very popular business man both in that of the late Sir James Haslett's firm in North St., Belfast, and afterwards as the Belfast agent of Messrs. Spillers and Bakers of Cardiff. The funeral took place on July 19th and though private, was largely attended. Rev. J. A. Kelly, who officiated, had charge of the services at Larne and Dunmurry was assisted at the former by the family's old friend, the Rev. David H. Hanson, C.B.E.

REPORTS.

Downpatrick. — Very successful flower services were held on Sunday, July 10, in Downpatrick Presbyterian Non-Subscribing Church. Special features were hymns suitable to the occasion by the Sunday-school children and the choir, and solos by Miss Beth Briggs, beautifully rendered, in the morning, 'What is the law of beauty?' and, in the evening, 'Let us be tender and trusty and true.' Miss Marie Henry, L.L.C.M., presided at the organ. The Church was lavishly decorated with flowers given by friends, and the children's offerings of flowers and eggs were in abundance.

Rev. H. Hall preached in the morning from the text, 'consider the lilies of the field,' emphasising the fact that in the beauty of the flowers of the field direct evidence of the goodness and love of God is to be seen. In the evening he took as his text the words, 'Strength and beauty are in His sanctuary,' making use also of Longfellow's poem, 'The Flowers,' in which the floners of the field are spoken of as 'Stars that in earth's firmament do shine.' The significance of relating the thoughts of the stars and the flowers together was shown, the stars suggesting the immensity of the universe, whilst the flowers suggest that beauty as well as strength is at the heart of things. Whilst it is necessary to know that God is one 'who telleth the stars in number,' it is much more necessary to know that 'He healeth the broken in heart,' and of the visible things of His creation the flowers suggest that to us most of all. When anyone is lying sick and afflicted it is not the custom to open the window at nighttime and point to the stars, asking the soul to find comfort there. It is vastly better to take these smallest and tenderest messages of love and beauty, the flowers, to cheer and strengthen the heart by their exquisite loveliness. When the immensity of God's universe has left the heart unmoved, then the wayside flower has often brought 'thoughts which do often lie too deep for tears.'

At the close of the evening service the offerings of flowers and eggs were taken to the Infirmary.

A motor 'treasure hunt' in aid of Downpatrick manse building fund was held on Monday evening. Seventy-two cars took part, and the route was through Killyleagh, Ballymoran, Killinchy, Balloo, Ballygowan, Derryboy, Crossgar, and home. 'Teasers' prescribed for the respective drivers comprised: What important social legislation was enacted for Ireland in the year Tullycore school was erected?—Poor Law and Tithe Act. Give the name of the midwife at Killinchy?—K. Smith. What is the meaning of the name Ballygowan?—The town of the smith. And Finnebrogue?—The hunting house, or white house.

At the finish of the tour a company of over 300 gathered in the Assembly Hall for tea, served by a ladies' committee. A dance followed, to music by Geddis's band, Mr. Graham Chambers being M.C. During an interval Mrs. Hall, wife of the minister, distributed the prizes, as follows: 1, Mr. W. Cochrane of Woodgrange, 79½ marks out of a possible total of 86; 2, Mr. J. Stewart, jr., 75¼. Ladies' prize, Miss Bain, of Killyleagh, 72¾. Prize for driver of car No. 13, Mr. Gerard Wylie. A sum of about £30 was raised.

Glenarm.—There was a very representative attendance of Craft, Royal Arch and Knight Masons at a Masonic service held in the Glenarm Old Presbyterian Church on Sunday, August 7th, last, when the members of Lodge No. 45 were reinforced by a number of brethren from Larne and Ballymena. Assembling in the Castle demesne, the brethren were marshalled by W. Br. J. M. O'Brien, P.G., Inspector, and V.W. Br. J. J. Wall, P.P.S.G.W., and marched in processional order to the church, where they were joined by members of the general public and filled the church to capacity.

Conducting the service was W. Br. the Rev. Felix Holt, B.A., Ballymoney, Prov. Jun. Gd. Chaplain, who delivered an eloquent and inspiring address, and a noticeable feature of the service was the praise portion, a strong choir leading the hearty congregational singing of favourite psalms and hymns. Miss Lily Robinson, A.L.C.M., presided at the organ and, in addition to accompanying the singing most efficiently, played several voluntaries and marches.

W. Br. Holt's address was most appropriate, though far removed from the conventional "Masonic sermon.' He took as his text the opening word of the 16th chapter of 1st Corinthians, that "Now concerning the collection,"and immediately arrested and sustained the attention of all present. He said they were often told that in a properly-organised society there would be no poor, and that until society was properly organised the State should look after all poor. It was in the interests of those poor and distressed they were met that afternoon, and it was on their behalf he craved assistance.

Money, he said, had been defined by someone as stored-up personality, and sympathy must accompany the giving of it. The aim of giving must be service, and that service must be rendered with no expectation of return or reward. Christianity was a religion of giving. The Lord Jesus Christ commended the almsgiver, but warned his hearers against almsgiving for the sake of ostentation.

Before he concluded the reverend brother made apt reference to the claims which the several Masonic charities made upon the sympathy and service of the brethren, and urged that they should give liberally thereto. It was evident that his eloquent words had borne good fruit when there was subsequently announced the contribution of a substantial sum to the charity funds. From the non-Masonic portion of the congregation there was a good collection for the Glenarm Nursing Fund.

After the service a large number of visiting brethren were hospitably entertained to tea in the Masonic Hall by the members of the Glenarm Lodge. The collection totalled £18 18s. 11d.

Clough.—A little over five years ago the members of Clough Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church, under the leadership of the minister, Rev. J. Shaw Brown, undertook to raise within that period the sum of £1,000 by personal subscription to make good a financial loss in the investments of the church. One of the trustees, Miss Davidson, of Bryansford, invited all the families and friends to tea at the Slieve Donard Hotel, Newcastle, to celebrate the successful completion of the fund.

Lord Chief Justice Andrews, presiding, said that he had become intimately acquainted with the history of the church at Clough, and the enterprise and sacrifice of both minister and people in conceiving and executing the plan. He illustrated his text with apposite stories, which put the large audience in the highest good humour. He concluded a witty speech by expressing the hope that, having re-established the finances, the church would now be able to carry on the good work for generations to come.

Miss Davidson said the plan had realised more than the £1,000 originally aimed at, and the friendly help and expert advice of a well-known Belfast stockbroker had enabled her to invest nearly £1,200 in sound trustee securities. With her co-trustee, Mrs. M. Hay, Lodge Hill, she handed over to the senior trustee of the church, Mr. W. J. Watts, of Moneycarragh, the detailed financial statement, prepared and duly audited by Mr. Niall Nelson, soicitor, Belfast. Then, quietly leaving all the hard facts and figures behind her, she spoke to the children of the spiritual meaning and significance of the day. With a beautifully human touch she drew a word-picture of the grandfathers and grandmothers, the great grandfathers and great grandmothers, who had built the church and had kept it going for 100 years. The task and privilege of to-day, she said, would be to carry on the religious customs and traditions in a world that was apt to forget not only the letter but the spirit of the religious customs and traditions of the past.

At the urgent request of the Lord Chief Justice the National Anthem was delayed to permit some of the children to enjoy their strawberry ices to the full. When at last everybody was satisfied, the happy company brought a most pleasant meeting to an end in good Ulster fashion.

"Down Recorder."

The annual Sabbath School excursion took place on Friday, 8th July, when over 50 scholars and friends journeyed to Bangor by bus and cars. The weather was good until about half-an-hour before leaving for home and young and old enjoyed the day. The arrangements were in the hands of the teacher (Miss Mollie Hay) and gave great satisfaction.

The 21st Coy. Boys Brigade (Dowanhill Parish Church, Glasgow) in camp at Murlagh, Dundrum, again had their Church parade to Clough. The minister (Rev. J. Shaw Brown) was the first chaplain of the 24th Coy. 25 years ago, and as a mark of respect for a former chaplain the officers and boys marched over 5 miles to worship with him. The congregation greatly appreciate the visit of the Boys' Brigade to the church on the Sunday morning.

Women's League.—A United Service will be held in the First Church, Rosemary St., Belfast, on Sunday evening, September 25th, at 7 p.m.

The preacher will be Mrs. F. Cottier, B.A., President of the British League of Unitarian and other Liberal Christian Women.

The quarterly meeting of the Ulster Branch will be held at Dromore, on Saturday, September 24th. The service will be taken by Miss Cottier, B.A.

Transport arrangements will be made known to Local Secretaries at a later date.

Ballyhemlin.—The annual choir and School excursion took place on Friday, August 5th, to Aldergrove, Whitehead, Belle-vue, and Bangor. At Aldergrove, by permission of the officer-in-command, the party was shown over the Aerodrome, and were much interested in all that was to be seen; cameras had to be surrendered at the entrance, to be returned on leaving. At Whitehead there was an enjoyable hour on the sea-front.

Belle-vue was hard to get away from; and at Bangor the party broke up and went their several ways, meeting at 10 for the return home. The outing was voted one of the best that could be remembered.

Ballycarry. — The congregation of Ballycarry has to mourn the loss of an old and valued member, Mrs. Robinson, who passed away at her residence—Beltoy, on the second day of August.

Up to the last two or three days of her life, she was in the enjoyment of her usual vigorous health. The very large number which gathered at her funeral showed the esteem in which she was held, throughout the district. It was one of the largest funerals for some considerable time—representative of people from far and near.

A native of Cairncastle, her maternal forbears were connected with the Old Meeting House in that village. Mrs. Robinson always maintained her interest in her Church at Ballycarry, to the very end of her life. She leaves a son, a daughter-in-law, and two grandchildren to mourn her loss. Her death will couse a vacancy in her home which will long be felt by her bereaved relatives.

BEAUTY.

Beauty is one of the attributes of God, and it is as necessary to human beings, as bread itself. Yet whole countrysides are being devastated, forests have disappeared in Englinad and Scotland, and indiscriminate building has marred many a fair landscape. Appeal is made for the National Trust for places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty. The Trust is small and very poor in Northern Ireland, and its work should be better known. In England the Trust has been instrumental during the last year in saving some gems of scenery from commercial vandalism. The address of the National Trust in Belfast is 29 Wellington Place.

Will our friends who see to the sale of this Magazine, kindly endeavour to get new subscribers.

AN APPRECIATION OF THE WOMEN'S LEAGUE.

To the Editor of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian.

Sir,—May I ask for the courtesy of your pages to express my apreciation of the kindness shown to me during my visit to my native Ulster.

When leaving Australia—which I shall remember—I felt confident of a friendly Irish welcome, but some of our Irish congregation have given me a reception such as I never dreamt of and for which I am deservedly grateful; it would be a heart of stone that could remain unmoved. Different Branches of the Women's League have also vied with each other in their hospitality and the warmth of their greeting, so I sincerely wish prosperity to the Women's League. Blessings on those who maintain such a bond. Only Exiles returned after years of absence can realise what such friendship means, and what a cherished memory it shall be in years to come.

On the eve of my return to Australia, and remembering the kindness everywhere received from Antrim to Cork, making it a holiday worth while, I tender you all my heartfelt thanks. I now bid you good-bye, and may God be with you till we meet again.

Yours affectionately,
ISA M. K. ABERNETHY.

Moneyrea,
18th August, 1938.

A scripture examination was being held in a Scottish school. The examiner asked: "And where does God live?" There was a dead silence, until a wee hand shot up: "Please sir, in our bath-room!" "What makes you say that?" asked the examiner. 'Every mornin', my feyther comes to the bath-room door, and says "God, are ye aye there yet!"

Emerson, on returning from his winter lecture tours to his home at Concord, used to shake hands with the lower branches of his trees. He declared that he could feel that the trees were glad at his return, and no doubt that quality of sympathy was a great aid to his inspiration.

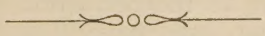
SERMON BY REV. J. BARRON.

Matthew xi, 19: "Wisdom is justified of her children." Wisdom and knowledge are often taken to mean one and the same thing. It is a great blessing when the two are found together in one person; but, they are two different things, and a man may have a great deal of knowledge, as he might also have a great deal of wealth, and yet have very little wisdom with it, and a man with wisdom and perhaps not very much learning or wealth, might accomplish a great deal of good, though he might not get much credit for it. In the book of Ecclesiastes, we are told, "There was a little city, and few men within it; and there came a great king against it, and beseiged it, and built great bulwarks against it: now there was found in it a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city; yet no man remembered that same poor man." There was a man who had good common sense, and by some means, very simple perhaps, saved the city.

Ecclesiasticus has a verse: "Wisdom mightily and sweetly ordereth all things;" which reminds us of another text, appearing twice in Jeremiah, "He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by his discretion — skill, activity" the three modes in which God works. Wisdom is given the middle place between the other two,—power, wisdom, activity,—the power that enables the wisdom that guides and the discretion is activity that energises. Wisdom is the guiding Providence, the Director that mightily and sweetly ordereth all things.

Over the "wireless" you may hear the great concert at the Queen's Hall, London. If you go there, you could see a great organ facing you, and in front of that rows and rows of seats for the musicians, and in front of them again a sort of pulpit for the conductor. Now, every musican there, whatever his or her part, is no doubt as highly trained as it is possible to be. But, if we can think of anything so absurd, as each one of them coming to the concert, determined to play just his or her own tune, and they all started off at once, what a chaos and confusion it would be! There is the conductor, who with just the use of his hands and his baton, and his eye, unites the whole thing in himself; there he is standing in the centre, wisely and sweetly ordering all things.

That is what God, in his aspect of Wisdom, is doing, he is conducting a great choir; the morning stars sing together and all the sons of God shout for joy. That was at the dawn of creation and still goes on, in the music of the spheres, and Sound is the Builder. You may have seen pictures of farms built by sound, and the great music of the spheres, the great Sound that is uttered, is the Word by which all things are made, and without which nothing is made that is made. From the very highest, downward and downward through every realm, God's methods are reflected, and here in this dense world of matter, into which human souls are born, where human wills assert themselves against the will of God, where there is head-strong impetuosity and forgetfulness of God, and darkness and superstition and evil, the Wisdom that mightily and sweetly ordereth all things was needed to be heard, to bring order out of chaos, life out of death, and the Word in whom was life and light needed to shine forth in the darkness, and in the fullness of time the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. "Christ the wisdom and the power of God" the Apostle calls him. When that order takes place in ourselves, in our thought and lives, we no longer live in chaos and confusion of thought, but are awake; then, that is health, health of spirit, soul and body, and that is Holiness, and among all who thus seek the Wisdom of God, to perceive it and know it for themselves, Wisdom is justified. Wisdom is justified of her children.—Amen.



"In the Kabala of the Jews, Ainsaph the One manifests as Kether the Crown, the Bliss Aspect of Deity, and the root of the will in man ;also as Binah, Intelligence, the Consciousness Aspect, the root of Cognition in man; and as Chokma the Universal Mind, the Existence Aspect, the root of Activity in man."

THE CREEDS.

The report of the Archbishops' Commission (1922-1938) issued under the title of "Doctrine in the Church of England," has had a mixed reception according to the newspapers, and numerous protests have been received. What else is to be expected from a Church which from the days of Queen Elizabeth was the Church of a compromise? Theophilus Lindsay, who was the first to adopt the name Unitarian, at his meeing house in Essex Street, London, used the Apostles' Creed regularly in his services and the late Dr. James Drummond in his study of "Christian Doctrine," states that it is "Un-trinitarian," the late Principal Gordon stated the same thing. But on the clause relating to the Virgin Birth, an uncompromising attitude has been taken up by both the Anglo-Catholic and Evangelical sections of the Church of England. We learn from "The Liberal Catholic" that the newly consecrated Bishop of Oxford (Dr. Kirk) addressing his Diocesan Conference said: "I have no hesitation in saying to any priest, who denies the doctrine of the Virgin Birth or aserts it to be of no importance that I believe his conscience to be in error when it allows him to continue his ministry on such terms." "Few, if any, of those who deny the Virgin Birth have really faced the historical evidence fairly and responsibly."

Indeed! Isn't there such a thing as a Broad Church Party? and is that section going to take this lying down? Dean Stanley of Westminster Abbey declared himself to be as much an Unitarian as Dr. Martineau; that means that he did not accept this clause in the literal sense of the term, as the Bishop of Oxford probably does not accept literally "the Ascension," as Christ rising up bodily, "with flesh, bones, and all things appertaining to the perfection of man's nature;" but, may have a mystical interpretation for it. Why confine mystical interpretation to one clause only? Even Paul contended for "those things which are an allegory."

The editorial from which the reference to the Bishop of Oxford has been taken, continues: "How glad we must feel—those of us who were once in it—that we are now out of all that, out of all the controversy and bickering and accusations and waste of time concerning matters about which intelligent and honorable people might surely be allowed to differ."

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